

## UNIFORMS AND RANK IN RETIREMENT

10 April 2015

### REFERENCES:

- Army Regulation (AR) 670-1, Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia, dated 10 April 2015.
- Department of the Army Pamphlet (DA Pam) 670-1, Guide to the Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia dated 10 April 2015.

**Below are excerpts from AR 670-1 and DA Pam 670-1 concerning wear of Army Uniforms by Retired Personnel.**

AR 670-1:
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Chapter 23–3. Retired personnel.

a. Personnel who will be advanced to a higher grade upon retirement have the option of wearing the insignia of that grade thereafter.

b. Retired personnel on active duty will wear their uniform and insignia in the same manner as prescribed for personnel in the AA (Active Army) of corresponding grade and branch.

c. Retired personnel not on active duty may wear either the uniform reflecting their grade and branch on the date of their retirement, or the uniform prescribed for personnel in the AA (Active Army) of corresponding grade and branch, when appropriate, but may not mix the two uniforms. Personnel will wear the grade as shown on the retired grade of rank line on their retirement order.

d. Retired personnel not on active duty are not authorized to wear the Army uniform when they are instructors or responsible for military discipline at an educational institution, unless the educational institution is conducting courses of instruction approved by the Armed Forces.

e. In addition to the occasions for wear listed above, retired personnel are authorized to wear the uniform only on the following occasions:

(1) While attending military funerals, memorial services, weddings, inaugurals, and other occasions of ceremony.

(2) Attending parades on national or State holidays, or other patriotic parades or ceremonies in which any active or reserve U.S. military unit is taking part. Uniforms for these occasions are restricted to service and dress uniforms; the combat uniform and

physical fitness uniforms will not be worn. Wearing the Army uniform at any other time, or for any other purpose than stated above, is prohibited.

f. Retirees are authorized to wear the physical fitness uniform under the following provisions:

(1) With civilian attire off the installation.

(2) When wearing the physical fitness uniform as a complete uniform, retirees will—

(a) Wear only authorized accessories corresponding to those worn by personnel of the AA (Active Army).

(b) Wear the uniform in accordance with the guidance provided to AA (Active Army) Soldiers in DA Pam 670–1.

g. Retirees are authorized to wear the Retired Service ID Badge (see DA Pam 670–1).

23–6. Medals on civilian clothes. Retired personnel and former members of the Army (as described above) may wear all categories of medals described in this regulation on appropriate civilian clothing. This includes clothes designed for veteran and patriotic organizations on Veteran’s Day, Memorial Day, and Armed Forces Day, as well as at formal occasions of ceremony and social functions of a military nature. Personnel may wear either full-sized or miniature medals. Personnel who wear medals on civilian clothes should place the medals on the clothing in approximately the same location and in the same manner as for the Army uniform, so they look similar to medals worn on the Army uniform.

<b>DA Pam 670-1:</b>
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Chapter 22-17, c. (13) The retired service ID badge is worn on the wearer’s left side. Personnel may wear the badge only in service and dress uniforms after officially retired from the U.S. Army. Either the old version or new version is authorized for wear.

23–3. Retired personnel (Wear of Shoulder Sleeve Insignia (SSI) and Shoulder Sleeve Insignia-Former Wartime Service (SSI-FWS)

a. See AR 670–1 for general wear of the Army uniform by retired personnel.

b. Retired personnel not on active duty are not authorized to wear SSI, except as follows:

(1) Personnel performing instructor duties at an educational institution conducting courses of instruction approved by the Armed Forces will wear the SSI of the command

that is responsible for the course of instruction. Senior and junior ROTC instructors will wear the Cadet Command SSI on their left shoulder (see AR 145–1 and 145–2 for wear of the uniform by senior and junior ROTC instructors, respectively).

(2) Retired personnel are authorized to wear the SSI for U.S. Army retirees on the left shoulder of the green service uniform. The insignia consists of a white cloth disc with a blue border, and an inner white disc with a red border, which bears a blue and white adaptation of the coat of arms of the United States. The outer disk that surrounds the coat of arms contains the inscription “UNITED STATES ARMY” in red letters at the top, and the word “RETIRED” in blue letters at the bottom (see fig 23–1). On the blue service and dress uniforms, retired personnel will wear the retired service ID badge (see para 22–17d(12) and fig 22–77).

(3) Retired personnel may wear the SSI–FWTS on the right shoulder of the green service uniform if they were authorized wear of the SSI–FWTS while on active duty (see para 21–17). On the blue service and dress uniforms, retired personnel may wear the combat service ID badge (see para 22–17 and fig 22–70) if they were authorized wear when they were on active duty.